

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
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 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. [ ] it has become apparent during the past two months that two groups of Soviet leaders, the members of which cannot be determined, have been carrying on a quiet but definite struggle within the Presidium [of the CPSU]. Evidence of this struggle could be found in articles of various newspapers and magazines. On 21 December 1954, [ ] Pravda and Izvestiya carried contradictory editorials about Party policy on the front page. The sharply contradictory tone of the two editorials [ ] Izvestiya was controlled by one group of the Presidium and Pravda by the other group. 25X1
2. [ ] one group probably consists of the old Bolsheviks: Bulganin, Voroshilov, Kaganovich, Mikoyan, Molotov, and Shvernik, and that this group has probably chosen Khrushchev as its front man. The other group is apparently led by Malenkov and comprises the new Soviet rulers, i.e., those men whose names have been added to the Politburo or Presidium during the past few years. It also seems that on internal matters the group of old Bolsheviks would return to policies similar to those of the most terrible days of Stalin's regime. The second group, headed by Malenkov, apparently favors a more lenient policy in their approach to the populace. It is the second group which very likely has been in control since Stalin's death and which probably reached the pinnacle of its authority at about the time of Beriya's arrest and the subsequent purge of the MVD. 25X1
3. On 24 January 1955, the principal article in Pravda dealt with certain important decisions which had just recently been made in the Central Committee of the Party. These decisions called for an emphasis on heavy industry at the expense of light industry and consumer goods. [ ] some obscure economists had previously written some treatises on the possibilities of a sharp and steady increase in the production of consumer goods at the expense of heavy industry. These economists were taken to task by Shepilov, the editor of Pravda, who implied 25X1

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-2-

rather strongly that, if such people as these economists continued, they could easily be compared with the right-wing restorationists of the Bukharin, Rykov, and Trotsky variety. The important part of the article was missing: on 7 November 1954, Malenkov had said practically the same thing for which the economists were being belittled and severely criticized for having said. [redacted] the struggle is still extant but that those persons opposed to Malenkov's most recent utterances have apparently won the first or second rounds.

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4. [redacted] beginning with 24 January 1955 and continuing three or four nights, there had been a rather heavy military movement on the Sadovaya ulitsa (koltso) in Moscow. The movement involved batteries which he believed to be 85 mm anti-aircraft guns being towed by tracked prime movers which also seemed to be personnel carriers. [redacted] the interesting aspect of these movements was that the guns seemed to have been moved in both directions on the street. He could not explain why the anti-aircraft pieces would be moved to different positions at this time of year, but he recalled a similar military movement on the same street at the time Beriya was arrested. [redacted] 25X1
- [redacted] during the hours of darkness of each night in question approximately 50 of these pieces were moved in each direction, all of them attached to tracked prime movers which seemed to be full of soldiers. 25X1

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